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AND

CENTENNIAL RECORD

OF

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as a director and vice-president. Later, he took an active part in sinking a coal shaft that has developed one of the finest veins of coal in the State, and is now a director of the Centralia Mining and Manufacturing Coal Company. In April, 1875, he was appointed, by Governor Beveridge, commissioner for the Illinois State Prison. The news of this appointment was received with unfeigned satisfaction by the citizens of his city, regardless of political party.

Public-spirited and enterprising, Captain Noleman is always ready to promote the interests of the people. He is a man of natural sound judgment, warm hearted, and highly esteemed by all who know him. His early life was confined exclusively to business, but later he has traveled through most of the States and the Canadas, and gained a large fund of valuable information.

He was married in August, 1847, to Miss Sarah A. Jennings, daughter of Charles W. Jennings, an influential man of Marion county. Mrs. Noleman died in March, 1859, leaving one son and two daughters. The son, Walter A., married Miss Elizabeth Thompson, and resides in Centralia. Irene, the eldest daughter, recently married Samuel L. Dwight, of the law firm of Casey and Dwight, a grandson of Governor Zadoc Casey, whose family history is closely connected with the history of Illinois. Ida, the youngest, is at home, and is a young lady of refinement and superior accomplishments.

In 1863 Captain Noleman married his second wife, Miss Anna M. White, by whom he has one son and one daughter.

His success in life is the natural result of his own persevering energy, indomitable courage and genuine worth.

THOMAS SHIRLEY,

CHICAGO.

THOMAS SHIRLEY was born in Charlotte county, Virginia, October 22, 1827. His ancestors were of English and German descent — the family names of his grandparents were Shirley and Fleishman. They were early settlers in Madison county, and large land-holders. His father's name was Allen Shirley; was born in Madison county, Virginia, in the year 1800; became a clergyman, and in 1820 removed to Charlotte, and married Miss Sarah Anderson, daughter of Thomas Anderson, formerly of Cumberland county, but then of Charlotte, Virginia. He was a planter of considerable wealth, and took part in the war of 1812; was a cavalry officer in the volunteers.

His father, Allen Shirley, continued to reside in Charlotte, in the pursuance of his ministerial labors in the Reformed Methodist church, until he died, in 1855.

The Shirley family were of the "old school." They were wealthy, owned a great number of slaves and immense tracts of land in Madison county.

His mother was grandniece of Hon. Creed Taylor, of Virginia, who was for many years chancellor, and widely known for his great ability and learning. He was a State senator, and voted for the "Virginia resolutions" of 1798–99. He resided near Farmville, in Cumberland county, where he died in 1835.

The grandmother of Thomas Shirley was a Miss Taylor, a niece of Chancellor Taylor. She was a woman of great beauty, intelligence and energy. She married Walthal Halcombe, of Charlotte county, a gentleman of great wealth, influence and position.

Upon the death of the mother of young Shirley, who was then only a child, his grandmother took him in charge, and he resided with her up to the time of her death, which occurred in 1845.

The subject of this sketch was an only son; was educated at the select school of Professor Page, of Cumberland county, where he prepared for college. From that school he went to Prince Edward Court-House, entered the school of Professor Balentine, and thence to Washington College, Lexington, Virginia, in 1840. Graduated in 1843; returned home, continued his studies until 1846, and then went again to Washington College and received his degree of M.A. He afterwards commenced the study of law at the University of Virginia, and in 1848 graduated in law and modern languages. While a student there, he paid special attention to the practice of law in the Moot Court, under the instructions of John B. Minor. In 1848 he left the university, returned home, and remained there until the fall of 1849, when he came to Chicago.

At the special suggestion of Professor McGuffee, he opened an office and commenced the practice of law, on Clark street; and one year later removed to Randolph street, to what was called Warner's Hall, where he practiced seven years, having a steady and successful business.

In 1852 he prosecuted a fugitive slave case, which excited a great deal of attention. The public sentiment was much opposed to the return of fugitive slaves, but Mr. Shirley heeded not public sentiment when he had a professional duty to perform. Since that time he has been engaged in general practice in the State and Federal courts of Illinois, devoting himself exclusively to his profession.

His early studies made him familiar with the principles of law, which has given him great advantage in his practice. His power of memory is very great: in the most protracted cases, without notes, he always quotes the evidence correctly. His perseverance is unceasing; and having taken a case in hand, he follows it from the lowest to the highest courts, if necessary, to obtain justice. His style of oratory is vehement and pathetic, often drawing tears from the jury; while at times his humor is irresistible, convulsing the whole court. His defense of Nicholas Staaden, charged with arson, places Mr. Shirley in the front rank of criminal lawyers of the Northwest. Mr. Shirley ever throws his whole energy into the interests of his client. He has a great power of oratory. In 1873 he delivered the oration on the 4th of July at Naperville, which met with great favor, and manifested a high order of eloquence.

In September, 1859, Mr. Shirley was married to Miss Carrie Rasbon, of Chicago; daughter of John Rasbon, who was engaged in the lumber business, and is now deceased. He died in 1869. By this marriage he has five children, all residing at his home in Lake View.

Mr. Shirley's religious sentiments are those of the Presbyterian church, in which he was educated and baptized.

In early youth military tactics formed part of his studies, and in 1860 he was lieutenant-colonel commanding the Washington Independent Regiment, of Chicago, and as such tendered his regiment to Governor Yates, at the beginning of the war. They were accepted; but, owing to some political manœuvering (Shirley being a democrat), his regiment was left out. He therefore returned from Springfield and resumed his practice, which he has continued to the present time.

JOSEPH CLENDENIN ROSS, M.D.,

LINCOLN.

JOSEPH CLENDENIN ROSS, M.D., was born in Warren county, Ohio, February, 3, 1830.

His grandfather, John Ross, came from the north of Ireland to America previous to the revolution, and for awhile participated in that war. Married Elizabeth Irvine, and his offspring was nine boys and two girls, as follows: William, James, George, John, Williamson, Clendenin, Samuel, Robert L., Joseph, Hannah, and Ann.

Robert L., the ninth child, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Pennsylvania, 1802; emigrated to Ohio, and married Sarah Remley, by whom he had six children, viz.: Elizabeth J., Hannah A., Joseph C., Robert G., a Presbyterian clergyman; Isabelle C., and Wilson G.,— the last of whom died in infancy.

Joseph C. spent his youth in the common schools of Ohio, was two years at Hanover College, Jefferson county, on the Ohio river, and completed the classical course at Miami University, receiving the degree of A.B. in 1853, and A.M. in 1856. He subsequently attended the Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, where he received the title of M.D.

Being dependent upon his own exertions, he engaged in teaching (after graduating), for the purpose of securing funds to continue his medical studies, in which he was already considerably advanced; but soon opened an office and engaged in practice at a place called "Twenty Mile Stand," the home of Governor Morrow, in Ohio, where he remained one year.

In 1857 he moved to Waynesville, De Witt county, Illinois, and engaged in his profession until the fall of 1862, when he was appointed surgeon in the 94th Illinois Regiment Infantry, 13th Army Corps; which position he occupied till the close of the war.

In his early manhood he was a democrat, but afterwards became a free-soiler, and has been a republican since the organization of the party.

In 1865 he moved to Lincoln, Illinois, where he has since continued the practice of his profession with marked success. He has served as alderman, but declines political preferment.

In 1874, in company with Drs. Miller and Sargent, he opened the Lincoln Infirmary, which institution, under the present management, gives ample assurance of success.

He married Mary E. Willoughly, of Ohio, March 8, 1855, and has Minnie, an only daughter.

The family of Ross is originally of English extraction.

Dr. Ross is one of the pillars of the Presbyterian church, is a man of noble aspirations, and has clear moral record. As a practitioner he has few equals, and has many friends and few enemies.

WILLIAM TRUESDALE,

PEORIA.

WILLIAM TRUESDALE is a native of Trumbull county, Ohio, and was born on the 2d of March, 1811. His father was John Truesdale, a farmer of Washington county, Pennsylvania. He served in the war of 1812, and died in 1824. His mother, also a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, was of Irish and Scotch descent and of good family. Mr. Truesdale's early educational advantages were very limited, owing to the death of his parents, which occurred within a few days of each other when he was fourteen years of age. Being thrown upon his own resources at the time of his parents' death, he learned the carpenter and joiners' trade, and began work at Hartford, Trumbull county, Ohio. He was associated with his uncle, Robinson Truesdale, for seven years, and at the age of twenty-one began work for himself in Hartford, Ohio. He afterwards spent some time in the South, meeting with experiences of varied interest. His opportunities for accumulating property were very limited, which, together with his desire to make himself a home, induced habits of rigid economy, industry, and temperance.

On the 30th of July, 1833, he was married to Miss Anna L. Borden, a native of Hartford, Ohio, born on the 25th of August, 1814. She is a lady of excellent qualities and noble traits, and a distant relative of John Brown.

In 1851 Mr. Truesdale resolved to move west for the benefit of his family, who were growing up. He accordingly settled in Peoria, Illinois, where he worked one year at his trade. Having then a capital of about one thousand

dollars, he began the manufacturing of sash, doors, and blinds, in order that he might furnish employment for his sons, whose tastes and skill were in the direction of mechanical pursuits. Mr. Truesdale has established the reputation of being a man honest in all his purposes, pure in his motives, and upright in his dealings. To do right is his great principle, and he carries it into all his business relations. His business has been extended from year to year, and has proved a marked success.

He is a devoted Christian, and holds the views of the Congregational church.

He was a strong anti-slavery man and a pioneer of the old liberty party, and took an active part in the work of the underground railroad. He voted for James G. Burney in 1840, and held to that man's principles until he saw the consummation of his long cherished hopes. He has never aspired to public office, but has given his attention to his own special business.

His family consists of two sons and four daughters. The eldest, Emma Truesdale, was born on the 5th of July, 1834, and was married to William H. Ballard, on the 29th of January, 1857. Albert Truesdale was born on the 21st of September, 1836, and married to Josie G. Newton on the 3d of September, 1862, by whom he has five children. William P. Truesdale was born on the 21st of February, 1839, and married on the 1st of January, 1863, to Miss Kate Allen, by whom he has two children. The second daughter, Abbie A. Truesdale, was born on the 10th of September, 1841. Lucy B. Truesdale was born on the 12th of November, 1843, and was married on the 1st of June, 1871, to R. M. Blaire — they have two children. Josie M. Truesdale, the youngest child, was born on the 13th of January, 1855.

GAVION D. A. PARKS,

JOLIET.

THE subject of this sketch is a native of Bloomfield, Orleans county, New York, and was born on the 17th of September, 1817. His parents were Joel M. Parks and Bathsheba Walker, youngest daughter of William Gooding, of the same county. He received his early education under the instruction of private teachers and at Lewiston Academy, New York, pursuing the common and higher mathematical and classical studies; and at the age of fifteen began the study of law at Lockport, New York. His taste for literary pursuits, which he imbibed while young, has never left him, and he has been a frequent contributor to papers and magazines. In 1837, then being twenty years of age, he went to New York city, where he pursued his legal studies, and was admitted to the bar in 1841; and where, also, he was for a time connected in an editorial capacity with a daily paper called "The Transcript." In 1842 he removed to Lockport, Illinois, and began the practice of his profession at that place in 1843.

In 1844 he enjoyed his first taste of official honor in being appointed master in chancery for Will county, but retained the position, however, only a few months. In 1845, there being a great depression in the law, as in all other business, and his health demanding a more active, out-of-door life, he accepted a position on the engineer corps of the Illinois and Michigan canal, and continued till the completion of the enterprise in the spring of 1848.

In 1849 he was elected county judge of Will county, and removed to Joliet, where, in partnership with his brother-in-law, Hon. N. D. Elwood, he resumed the practice of his profession and built up an extensive and remunerative business. Mr. Elwood was an experienced business man of very extensive acquaintance, and to his untiring energy the firm owed a large share of its success and reputation. After his death, which occurred in 1861, Mr. Parks acted for several years as attorney for the Chicago and Rock Island, the Chicago and Mississippi, and the Indianapolis and Northern Indiana railroad companies.

In his religious views he professes to be unfettered by sects or creeds, having no defined faith and belonging to no Christian organization.

In political affairs he has always taken an active part, although hardly to be regarded as remarkably greedy for public honors. In 1848 he joined what was called the free-soil movement, and engaged to some extent in canvassing his district. In 1850, after the consummation of the memorable compromises of that year, and the dissolution of this party into its original elements, he resumed his relations with the democratic body, with which he remained identified until the repeal of the "Missouri compromise" in 1854; when he again withdrew, making a strong anti-Nebraska speech at Lockport within a week after the introduction of that measure by Judge Douglas. In this same year he was elected to the House of Representatives from the forty-fifth district, comprising Du Page, Will, Kankakee and Iroquois counties, carrying his own town — uniformly democratic before — by a majority of one. In the election of United States senator, in February, 1855, although not choosing to submit himself to the dictation of the caucus, he steadily voted for Abraham Lincoln, until it became painfully certain to his friends that he could not command the requisite votes to be elected, and then steadily supported Lyman Trumbull, who was elected on the tenth ballot; a support which he has never regretted at any stage of that distinguished gentleman's career. In 1853, by favor of Governor Matteson, he was appointed one of the directors of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, holding the position for several years. In 1856 he was elected to the State senate, from the sixth district, comprising Will, Kendall, Kankakee and Iroquois counties; and upon the expiration of his term in 1860, withdrew from the political arena. In 1864 he was appointed, by the unsolicited kindness of Governor Yates, one of the commissioners of the penitentiary at Joliet,—a position which he held one year. During the war he took an active interest in the Union

cause, making many addresses and patriotic speeches. As a speaker he is earnest and eloquent, and he is accustomed to allude with pride to the fact that for three successive anniversaries of the national birthday, in 1863, 1864 and 1865, he was invited by the citizens of Wilmington, in Will county, without distinction of party, to address them. In 1872, having identified himself with the political movement originated at Cincinnati, he was nominated, on the liberal republican ticket, for Congress, from his district; but sharing the by no means uncommon fate of his liberal confrères, was defeated by the regular republican candidate, Mr. Corwin. He has since taken but little conspicuous part in politics, though never found without decided and pronounced political views. His position, like many who are impatient of a too stringent party discipline, is best described as that of a conservative republican; inflexibly attached to the vital principles of that organization, but not conceiving himself bound to support its corruptions or perversions.

Mr. Parks was married, in 1848, to Miss Lucretia S. Story, daughter of Saint Story, of Moscow, New York.

CHARLES G. WHEELER, B.S., Ph.D.,

CHICAGO.

CHARLES G. WHEELER is the son of William and Caroline M. Wheeler, whose ancestors were of English descent, and were very early settlers in New England.

Mr. William Wheeler migrated to the West in 1838. He carried on the hardware business, and built the first brick store on Lake street, west of Clark, which stood till the great fire.

Charles Gilbert was born July 23, 1836, in London, Canada, where his parents were temporarily residing. His primary education was acquired at private schools and academies in Chicago. An important part of his early training he received at Wilson's Academy, on Lake street, one of the best educational institutions Chicago has ever had. When fifteen years of age he joined a party of seven of his schoolmates of about the same age as himself, and went to Connecticut; and the eight boys were formed into a family school at the home of that able teacher Dr. E. M. Beardsley, a name familiar to many of Chicago's leading citizens, as many similar classes were subsequently formed, exclusively of Chicago boys.

Returning to Chicago in November, 1852, Charles entered the store of his father as clerk, and remained three years. During a portion of this time he attended Bell's Commercial College, and graduated in 1854.

Mercantile pursuits were not congenial to him, and he determined to carry out a long premeditated plan, of acquiring an education that would fit him for a scientific career. Had he remained at the store, his father would have soon admitted him as a partner in an excellent business, but the acquisition of wealth was not regarded by him as worthy his highest ambition; he preferred to follow the bent of his own inclinations, and devote himself to scientific inquiry. With this end in view, preparatory to a scientific course at Harvard, he matriculated at Fort Edward Institute, New York, and remained there over a year. He then entered the scientific department of Harvard University, where he spent three years, and graduated with credit. Chemistry received his greatest attention, but he pursued under Agassiz, zoölogy and paleontology; botany under Gray, and comparative anatomy under Wyman. During the last term he translated Fliedner's "Aufgaben aus der Physik" for Professor Horsford, to be used as a text-book in the Lawrence Scientific School. He was also lecture assistant for Professor Cook, the university lecturer on Chemistry, who at that time gave the best illustrated lectures delivered in this country.

In the autumn of 1859 he returned to Chicago, and soon received a call to the professorship of Natural Sciences in Clark Seminary, Aurora, Illinois. He, however, declined this position in favor of another, which was offered him about the same time, as assistant State Geologist of Missouri. This position he held until the breaking out of the war in 1861. During this time he performed a great amount of geological work in the counties north of the Missouri river; and in the winters made chemical analyses for the survey, chiefly of coals.

In October, 1861, Mr. Wheeler left for Europe, with the intention of further prosecuting his studies at German universities, in analytical chemistry. He arrived at Berlin October 22, just as King, now Emperor, William was received in triumph on his return from Königsberg, where the coronation ceremonies had been performed. Through the surgeon-general of the Prussian army, to whom he had brought a letter of introduction, he was enabled to enter, as a student, the private laboratory of the famous chemist Heinrich Rose. Here he worked for six months, attending also the lectures of various scientists, such as Mitscherlich, Magnus, Dove, Bayer, Encke, and others. In the spring of 1862 he paid a short visit to Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and then went to London, spending two or three weeks studying the international exhibition then being held. He then went to Holland and up the Rhine to Heidelberg, where he entered the laboratory of Professor Carius. Here he confined himself to organic chemistry, and attended the lectures of Professors Bunsen, Kirchhoff, and others. After he had been at Heidelberg about five months he received a dispatch from William H. Seward, Secretary of State, informing him that the President had appointed him Consul at Nuremberg, Bavaria. This was a surprise to him, as it was unsolicited. However, he afterwards learned that he was indebted to the Hon. Theodore S. Fay, formerly United States Minister to Switzerland, but then a resident of Berlin, where Mr. Wheeler had made his acquaintance, and from which sprang up a warm friendship. Mr. Fay had paid a visit to President Lincoln, who asked what he could do for him? Mr. Fay replied:

C. Gilbert Wheeler

"Nothing for me, but there are two young Americans studying in Germany, whose appointment as consuls would give me much pleasure." "What are their addresses?" asked the President. Mr. Fay gave the information, and the conversation turned on other topics. Mr. Fay returned to Europe, and as he had heard of no consular appointments having been made, he concluded the President had forgotten the conversation. But Mr. Lincoln had not forgotten, but as soon as vacancies were found — which was only a few months thereafter — the two students received their appointments: Mr. Duncan, of South Carolina, to Carlsruhe, and Mr. Wheeler to Nuremberg.

The duties of this new office left him time for scientific research. He fitted up a laboratory adjoining the consulate, and for several years occupied himself with chemical investigations, publishing numerous papers in American and foreign scientific journals. Among those contributions were The Inorganic Constituents of Bavarian Hops, and an Analysis of the Soils on which they are Cultivated — An Original Method of Determining Carbon, Hydrogen, Oxygen and Nitrogen at One Operation — On the Action of Zinc and Sulphuric Acid upon Cyanacetic Acid — The Action of Hypochlorous Acid upon Oil of Turpentine and Camphor — Action of Manganic Dioxide upon Uric Acid.

In 1865 he translated into German a work on the "Financial Strength of the United States," by Lorin Blodget. The same year he read before the German Association of Naturalists and Physicians his Research on the Ultimate Analysis of Nitrogenous Organic Compounds. This paper called forth a highly complimentary letter from Baron von Liebig, and awakened the interest of other chemists.

Mr. Wheeler, in 1867, resigned his office and traveled in Italy, Malta, Morocco, Spain, France, Great Britain, Scandinavia, Russia, Austria and Switzerland. He then spent six months in Paris at the Ecole de Médecine, in the laboratory of Wurtz, and the Ecole Polytechnique under Regnault.

In May, 1868, he returned to Chicago, after an absence of six and a half years. He was tendered the chair of Chemistry at the Northwestern University, but his former associations determined him to resume work at the University of Chicago. He was also elected to two chairs: the one of Organic, the other Inorganic Chemistry, in the Chicago Medical College. He also opened an office as an analytical and consulting chemist. In 1869 Professor Wheeler invented a chemical fire extinguisher, which has been largely manufactured and is now very popular.

In the summer of 1871 Professor Wheeler spent several months traveling in Europe, and, at a meeting of the British Association in Edinburgh, read a paper on The Progress of Chemistry in the United States. The paper was published in the "Scotsman," and received favorable comment from Sir Lyon Playfair.

In the great fire of Chicago Professor Wheeler lost his library, one of the fullest on chemical subjects in this country. Soon after the fire he devised a process to restore to legibility charred writings, which was very extensively used here, as also in Boston.

In 1873 Professor Wheeler was appointed State Commissioner to represent Illinois at the exhibition at Vienna, also to attend the Patent Congress held in that city. Being familiar with the German language, he was able to take a full share in the discussions of the congress. The present winter (1875-6) he expects to travel extensively in South America.

Professor Wheeler is a member of many learned bodies, among which may be mentioned: The Chicago Academy of Sciences, the American Association of Science, the American Pharmaceutical Association, a corresponding member of the Imperial Geological Society of Berlin, the Société Chimique of Paris, and the Natural History Society at Nuremberg. He has prepared and published a series of natural history charts, and a text-book on the same subject, which are very popular in educational institutions; also a text-book on "Determinative Mineralogy;" and is now preparing a work on the "Chemistry of Building Materials," as also one on "Medical Chemistry."

Professor Wheeler was married in 1863 to Miss Sarah Jenkins, of Boston, Massachusetts. His marriage was the first ever celebrated in a Methodist church in Germany.

The career of Professor Wheeler has been very diversified. He has had a large intercourse with the learned world, and, while pursuing the daily toil of professional duty, is adding, from time to time, important contributions to literature and science. As an analytical and consulting chemist, and scientific expert in patent litigation, he has, perhaps, no superior in the West.

CHARLES ANALDO DUPEE,

CHICAGO.

CHARLES ANALDO DUPEE, lawyer, of Chicago, was born in West Brookfield, Massachusetts, May 22, 1831. His parents were Jacob Dupee and Lydia A (Wetherbee) Dupee, who were descended from a French Huguenot, who emigrated to Boston about the year 1685.

He obtained his preliminary education firstly at an academy in the town of Monson, and afterwards at the Williston Seminary at East Hampton, Massachusetts.

In 1850 he entered Yale College, where he graduated in 1854, taking the degree of A.B. In November of the latter year he removed to Chicago, where he became the principal of a private school known as Edwards' Academy. He remained in this position for six months, after which he spent some time in traveling. Towards the close of the year 1855 he returned to the city, and was appointed principal of one of the public schools of Chicago, where he remained one year.

At this time the high school of Chicago was being organized, and Mr. Dupee was selected for its principal. The task of forming and developing the system of this school

fell mainly upon him, and the form and shape which he impressed upon it still remain, and have been copied in the systems of other high schools.

During the time of his filling this position he was the editor of the "Illinois Teacher," a monthly magazine published in Chicago, principally for the use of school teachers.

He had also been pursuing for some years, though in a somewhat desultory manner, the study of law; but in 1860 he resigned his position of principal and began a systematic course of law reading, firstly in the law school of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and afterwards in the office of Gallup and Hitchcock, in Chicago. He was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Illinois in 1861. About this time he was offered the presidency of the State Normal School of Illinois, and also the Latin professorship in the Chicago University, both of which proposals he declined.

After admission to the bar he commenced the practice of the profession in Chicago under his own name, and continued so for about one year, when he entered into partnership with Mr. Jacob A. Cram, under the style of Dupee and Cram. In 1864 this firm was dissolved, and he became a member of the firm of Hitchcock, Dupee and Evarts, which continued until 1872, when, by the retirement of Mr. Evarts, the firm name became Hitchcock and Dupee, by which it is at present (1875) known. The firm holds a prominent position in the city, and have an extensive practice, being especially connected with corporation and insurance matters.

Mr. Dupee was married in 1863 to Miss Jennie Wells, daughter of Mr. Henry G. Wells, one of the early settlers of Chicago. He resides during the summer months at Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

JUDGE EDWARD P. KERBY,

JACKSONVILLE.

THE subject of this sketch was born on the 28th of October, 1833, and is the eldest child of Rev. William Kerby and Hannah *née* Wolcott. His father, a native of Connecticut, was one of the founders of Illinois College, of which he was also a professor. Subsequently he was compelled to resign his professorship owing to ill health, and entered the ministry as a home missionary, remaining such until his death, which occurred in 1851. His mother died in 1857, leaving a family of six children.

Edward received his education at Illinois College. He completed his studies in that institution in 1854, and during the next three years employed his time in teaching a private school at St. Louis. He afterwards returned to Jacksonville, and for five years held the position of principal of the West Jacksonville Grammar and High School.

Having decided to enter the legal profession, he resigned his position, and in the fall of 1862 began his studies in the office of Messrs. Morrison and Epler, and was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1864. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession, and has continued until the present, meeting with a success indicative of a steady and healthful growth.

He is eminently a self-made man, and owes his present standing to his industry and energy.

He was elected county judge in 1873, a position which he still holds.

In politics he is identified with the republican party.

He was married on the 28th day of October, 1862, to Miss Julia Duncan, youngest daughter of the late Governor Duncan.

WILLIAM KRONMEYER,

JOLIET.

ONE of the greatest blessings of our republican government is the fact that its advantages and emoluments are alike open to all, and that he of foreign equally with him of native birth may avail himself of them.

The subject of this sketch is of that energetic class of Germans who come to this country determined to succeed, and whose natural endowments fit them for a prosperous career. He was born on the 24th of July, 1829, in the city of Heilbronn, Kingdom of Würtemberg, Germany, and is the son of Ludwig and Christina Kronmeyer.

He received his education and spent his boyhood and early manhood in his native country; but, possessing an ambitious disposition, and wishing to extend his field of action and see and know more of the world, he resolved to emigrate to America, with a view to making a permanent home. Accordingly, late in 1854, being then twenty-five years of age, he left his native land, arrived in New York in 1855, and first settled in Saratoga county, New York. Here he immediately selected stone-cutting as his permanent business; and by industriously, faithfully and perseveringly following it, in all its various branches, has taken a first place in all matters pertaining to the business, and made his life a financial success. After working eighteen months in Saratoga county, his desire to go further west induced him to locate in Chicago, where he remained one year, working at his trade. His desire, however, was to work in a locality where the material in which he dealt abounded; and accordingly, with this purpose in view, he removed to Joliet, Will county, Illinois, his present home, and engaged in his chosen occupation. Here, by his industrious habits and expertness in his work, he rendered his services invaluable, and was at once employed by the Chi-

cago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad Company as foreman of shops and bridges. He continued in this position during ten years, and at the end of this time, by his economy and frugality, had accumulated a capital sufficient to enable him to purchase the large quarries which he has since so successfully conducted. The large quantity and fine quality of the stone has created for it a great demand, and greatly enhanced the value of the country around Joliet.

In 1857, two years after arriving in this country, he was married, in Saratoga county, New York, to Miss Catherine Bernhardt, of Rapoldshausen, in the Dukedom of Hessen, Germany; an amiable and efficient lady, who has proved a loving wife and fond mother. They have seven children, to whose instruction and culture they have given special attention.

In his political views Mr. Kronmeyer is identified with the republican party. He favors the "third term." Although he has always taken a deep interest in the political movements of his adopted country, he has never accepted public office. He is a stockholder in the Joliet Steel Works.

Before coming to this country, Mr. Kronmeyer acquired an extensive knowledge of the geography, characteristics and customs of many of the European countries; and in the training of his children has not failed to give them the benefit of his own observations and experiences.

Personally he is a man of marked integrity, intelligence, sociability and business tact; and by his steady industry has risen from obscurity to the enjoyment of a liberal competency and public esteem.

IRA SCOTT,

CHICAGO.

IRA SCOTT, lawyer, was born in Waterford, Saratoga county, New York, December 25, 1826. His father was William Scott, a merchant, who is still living. After the usual preliminary education he entered the Harvard Law School, where he remained for a considerable period. He also studied law in the office of John K. Porter, of Waterford. After a short practice at the East he removed to Chicago in the year 1853, and engaged in the practice of law in that city.

Upon the organization of the Superior Court of Cook County, in 1859, he was appointed master in chancery in that court, which position he continued to fill with credit and success for a period of fourteen years, until 1873, when he resigned the office. In the following year he was married to Miss Esther Kennedy, daughter of Garnsey Kennedy, Esq., of Saratoga county, New York.

For the past three years he has been engaged likewise in the practice of his profession in Chicago, mainly in connection with chancery cases.

He is considered, on good authority, to be one of the most competent lawyers in chancery that ever figured in Chicago; having a peculiarly legal mind, qualified by natural aptitude to analyze a case critically and candidly; comprehending its facts, separately and collectively, in their bearing on each other, by the tests of justice and equity. And these qualities are enhanced and made the more available by close and thorough knowledge of law, and the experience of many years' unremitted practice.

DAVID D. SPENCER,

CHICAGO.

DAVID DIEFFENDORFF SPENCER, banker and president of the State Savings Institution of Chicago, was born at Mohawk, Herkimer county, New York. He is the son of Ezekiel Spencer and Catherine (Dieffendorff) Spencer. His father, who was born in Connecticut, 1811, and is still living, is of New England parentage, and his mother is of Mohawk-German descent.

Until he was eighteen years of age David passed his time upon his father's farm. It is said to his credit now, that although he chafed under the dull routine of farm work, still, as a boy, he was faithful to whatever he was put to do—a characteristic which has clung to him in manhood. The facilities which Herkimer county afforded for schooling in the days when he was young were very limited. His tastes were, when a boy, inclined toward mathematics; and before he left school he acquired a good knowledge of civil engineering and surveying. He worked summers and went to school winters, as is the custom with country boys. The schools were not anything to boast of, but young Spencer dug a good practical education out of the prosy old books he had to study; and that, united to the unconquerable energy of the farmer lad, led him to determine to do something better than farming. His first move was to a country bank, where he gained much information which stood him in good use in later years. After awhile, by reason of too close application to study and work, his health broke down, and he had to give up his situation in the bank for civil engineering, which gave him more active employment. He was engaged for two years on the survey of the Erie canal, New York, and then went to Newburgh and worked on a railroad running from that place through central New York. In 1851 he was engaged on a railroad from Logansport, Indiana, to Chicago; and in 1853 took charge of the survey of the railroad extending from Fremont to Lima, Ohio.

With his health restored he took to banking once more,

but this time in the West. In 1855 he removed to Elkhorn, Wisconsin, and opened the Elkhorn Bank, under the State law. This is now the Elkhorn National Bank. The years 1859 and 1860 Mr. Spencer was in New York city in the brokerage business. December, 1861, he removed to Morris, Illinois, and organized the Grundy County Bank, under the State banking law, and in 1864 reorganized it as a national bank. During the twelve years spent at Morris Mr. Spencer was the leading banker of that place, and his bank became one of the most successful in the State and occupied a very high standing. In 1871 he removed to Chicago, where he might have a larger field of operations. He early became connected with the State Savings Institution, and in June, 1873, took the presidency of this bank. The State Savings Institution stands at the very front of savings banks in the West. It is by far the largest savings bank in the West, and the oldest in Chicago. Owing to its conservative character and excellent management, it suffered but little by the panic of 1874. The confidence of the public in the State Savings Institution is shown by the rapid increase of its deposits, which in 1863 amounted to three hundred thousand dollars; in 1865, to eight hundred thousand dollars; in 1868, to one million eight hundred thousand dollars; in 1871, to three million dollars; in 1874, to four million dollars. Mr. Spencer, as a bank officer, has ever been noted for rare good judgment; and those who know him best regard him as a man of unswerving integrity, and remarkable foresight and tact in the management of the intricate and often perplexing details of the savings bank business. Of great perseverance, and being at the head of the largest savings bank in the West, he is truly a representative man in his department.

He was married in 1855, at Bridgewater, New York, to Miss Mary A. Perkins, daughter of Erastus G. and Amanda Perkins, of Bridgewater. She died February 22, 1860, at Ilion, New York. Mr. Spencer was married again, August, 1863, at Morris, Illinois, to Miss Emeline W. Bulkley, daughter of Abel P. and Emeline W. Bulkley, of Morris. She died at New York February 14, 1874. Mr. Spencer has two sons and one daughter.

ALFRED WRIGHT,

CHICAGO.

ALFRED WRIGHT, the present secretary of the Chicago Board of Underwriters, is a native of New York; having been born in the village of Jericho, Queen's county, Long Island, on the 8th of April, 1824. His father, William P. Wright, was a prominent wholesale grocer of New York city; and his mother, Eliza Jackson, was from a family well known in the western part of Long Island as wealthy land proprietors.

In his early life Mr. Wright attended school at Fordham, Westchester county, Long Island, and later, at Flushing Institute. Being of a practical turn of mind, he sought those studies which he thought would best fit him for an active business life. Accordingly, with this purpose in view, he entered Columbia College, New York, and gave his chief attention to the study of mathematics and the modern languages. He completed his studies in 1840, and immediately took a position in his father's establishment in New York, which he held until his father retired from business.

The discipline and experience which he thus gained from his studies and contact with business life were well calculated to prepare him for the important positions which he has since been called to fill.

In the year 1855 Mr. Wright removed to Chicago, where he soon gained a reputation as a thorough business man, and won a large circle of friends; and when, in 1859, the Chicago Board of Underwriters was organized, he was called to the position of assistant secretary. This position he held till 1860, when he was elected secretary of the board; an office in which he has served during the last fifteen years, to the entire satisfaction of those who represent the insurance interests of Chicago.

In his boyhood Mr. Wright became thoroughly imbued with the principles and traits of the Quakers, through the teachings of his mother, who belonged to that denomination, and the influence of his early training has always adhered to him.

ELIAS SMITH, M.D.,

NORMAL.

THE stand which Elias Smith, M.D., the subject of this sketch, has taken in the science of anatomy and physiology, and the study which he has devoted to these and kindred subjects, have gained for him a wide reputation and resulted in great good to the medical profession. He was born at Corydon, Harrison county, Indiana, on the 5th of October, 1828, and is the son of John Smith and Nancy *née* Grant, both of whom were natives of Kentucky. Between the ages of nine and fourteen he attended school at Farmington, Illinois. For four years thereafter he was unable to engage in study or work of any kind, having lost the sight of one eye by the bursting of a percussion cap. He had a great fondness for study of a scientific and philosophical character, and was especially fond of the study of human nature and physiology; and, while yet a boy, he sought to increase his knowledge of comparative anatomy by going into the woods, killing rabbits and other small animals and dissecting them. He had a great taste for

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